

The Truth Teller.

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[NO. 1.

Tell the Truth: The Truth will tell. Truth will prevail, and never fail.

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[EDITOR.

The Truth Teller—*Will advocate the Primitive Organization of the Church of Jesus Christ (of Latter Day Saints,) which was organized on the 6th day of April, 1830, and maintain the Divinity of the Bible and Book of Mormon, and Also that Joseph Smith was once a great and true Prophet of God.*

A PROCLAMATION.

SECTION TWENTY.

To the Church of Jesus Christ (of latter day saints) who are the humble followers of our blessed Lord and Saviour, according to the new and everlasting covenant given to the church of Christ, which was organized on the 6th day of April A. D. 1830, by revelation and commandment from God for the last time, upon the foundation of the sacred records of the holy Bible and Book of Mormon, with the revelations given by the Holy Spirit of God, through Joseph Smith, the prophet and first apostle to the church of Christ in these last days.

There are now a community of members of the primitive organization of the church of Christ (of latter-day saints) who have maintained a faithful adherence to the fullness of the everlasting gospel of Christ, in living and walking in all righteousness according to the faith and doctrine of the church of Christ from the beginning down to the present time, who have now commenced to gather back to Jackson and its surrounding Counties, in the State of Missouri, in fulfillment of the revelations concerning the gathering of the saints. A considerable number of families emigrated to this section of the

country last year and many more are preparing to emigrate this year. The attention of all the pure in heart are now, called to this very important subject.

The gathering of the saints is a doctrine of the Bible, showing that at some period of time it would be proclaimed to the world. Then it would become the duty of all those who are of the true Christian faith, in order to escape the judgements of God that are to fall upon a proud and lukewarm professing world, that the saints should then gather together and settle down in some section of country and form a peaceable and righteous community, living and walking in the true Christian faith in keeping all the commandments of Jesus Christ the son of the only true God, who will preserve his people in that day of calamity which shall fall upon the proud nations of the earth, as the Saviour has said: "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring: Mens' hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of the heaven shall be shaken." Luke 21, 25-26. The "distress of nations with perplexity" spoken of here by the Saviour, is that same

period of time when Babylon shall fall, as is stated in John's Rev. chapters 17 and 18, which is to be by famine, pestilence and the sword. This great wreck of ruin that is to befall Babylon, is that same great event of peril in the "distress of nations with perplexity," also "mens' hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." From a general view of all the great nations of the earth, in their mighty commotions at this present time, clearly show that we are no longer on the verge of those dreadful events, but that we have actually entered into the great era of scourges that shall lash the proud and unruly nations of the whole earth into that very lamentable, "distress of nations with perplexity" that was fore-told by the Saviour. The downfall of Babylon has been fore-told by the greatest of the great.

And although that terrible event is just at our doors, yet the nations appear to be unapprised and soundly sleeping as though they would be only awakened at the rumbling crash of their fatal ruin: While the signs of the times so forcibly foreshadow the coming fate, that it seems the very death knell is tolling that awful doom.

Those mighty events that are to befall the nations of the earth, have long since been foretold by the blessed Saviour and the holy prophets of old; nearly eighteen hundred years have passed away since that prophetic era of the Jewish prophets was closed, all their inspired pens on this subject seemed to point to some far distant day from their own prophetic period. Time has rolled on, century after century has passed away, and time is still on the wing, moving steadily along until we are brought down to witness the long foretold tragic scenes of ruin, the 'distress of nations:' the downfall of Babylon! And although the *Sectarian world* count their many millions professing to have a form of godliness, yet among them all there is found no inspired mind like holy men of old to warn the proud nations of the threatened judgments of God that is just about to burst upon them. But the allwise God raised up

Joseph Smith, a prophet, bold and independent of the opposing millions, and like the inspired minds of old, positively declared the time had now come for the accomplishment of all those wonderful things in this age of the world. The following is from the prophet Joseph Smith; "And now I am prepared to say by the authority of Jesus Christ that not many years shall pass away before the United States shall present such a scene of bloodshed as has not a parallel in the history of our nation; pestilence, hail, famine and earthquakes will sweep the wicked of this generation from off the face of the land, to open and prepare the way for the return of the lost tribes of Israel from the north country. The people of the Lord, those who have complied with the requisitions of the new covenant, have already commenced gathering together to Zion, which is in the State of Missouri; therefore I declare unto you the warning which the Lord has commanded me to declare unto this generation, remembering that the eyes of my Maker are upon me, and that to him I am accountable for every word I say, wishing nothing worse to my fellowmen than their eternal salvation; therefore, "fear God and give glory to him for the hour of his judgment is come." Repent ye, repent ye, and embrace the everlasting covenant, and flee to Zion before the overflowing scourge overtake you, for there are those now living upon the earth whose eyes shall not be closed in death until they see all these things, which I have spoken fulfilled. Remember these things; call upon the Lord while he is near, and seek him while he may be found, is the exhortation of your unworthy servant, Joseph Smith." The above prophecy is dated in the year 1833. —See *Times and Seasons*, vol. 5, page 707.

The following is a revelation from the prophet Joseph Smith, given Dec. 25, 1832. "Verify thus saith the Lord, concerning the wars that will shortly come to pass, beginning at the rebellion of South Carolina, which will eventually terminate in the death and misery of many souls. The days will come that war will be poured

cut upon all nations, beginning at that place; for behold the southern States shall be divided against the Northern States, and the Southern States will call on other nations even the nation of Great Britain, as it is called, and they shall also call upon other nations, in order to defend themselves against other nations; and thus war shall be poured out upon all nations. And it shall come to pass, after many days, slaves shall rise up against their masters, who shall be marshaled and disciplined for war.— And it shall come to pass also, that the remnants who are left of the land will marshal themselves, and shall become exceeding angry, and shall vex the Gentiles with a sore vexation; and thus, with the sword, and by bloodshed, the inhabitants of the earth shall mourn; and with famine, and plague, and earthquakes and the thunder of heaven, and the fierce and vivid lightning also, shall the inhabitants of the earth be made to feel the wrath and indignation and chastening hand of an Almighty God until the consumption decreed hath made a full end of all nations: that the cry of the Saints, and of the blood of the Saints shall cease to come up into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth from the earth, to be avenged of their enemies. Wherefore, stand ye in holy places and be not moved until the day of the Lord come for behold it cometh quickly, saith the Lord.— Amen.”

The following revelation given by Joseph Smith the prophet A. D. 1832: “Hearken, O ye people of my church, saith the voice of him who dwells on high and whose eyes are upon all men; yea, verily I say, hearken ye people from afar, and ye that are upon the islands of the Sea, listen together; for verily the voice of the Lord is unto all men, and there is none to escape, and there is no eye that shall not see; neither ear that shall not hear; neither heart that shall not be penetrated; and the rebellious shall be pierced with much sorrow for their iniquities shall be spoken upon the house-tops, and their secret acts shall be revealed; and the voice of warning shall

be unto all people. * * Wherefore, the voice of the Lord is unto the ends of the earth, that all that will hear may hear; prepare ye, prepare ye, for that which is to come, for the Lord is nigh; and the anger of the Lord is kindled, and his sword is bathed in heaven, and it shall fall upon the inhabitants of the earth, and the arm of the Lord shall be revealed, and the day cometh that they who will not hear the voice of the Lord, neither the voice of his servants, neither give heed to the words of the prophets and apostles, shall be cut off from among the people; for they have strayed from mine ordinances, and have broken mine everlasting covenant; they seek not the Lord to establish his righteousness, but every man walketh in his own way, and after the image of his own god whose image is in the likeness of the world, and whose substance is that of an idol, which waxeth old and shall perish in Babylon, even Babylon the great, which shall fall. Wherefore, I the Lord, knowing the calamity which should come upon the inhabitants of the earth, called upon my servant Joseph Smith jr., and spake unto him from heaven, and gave him commandments; and also gave commandments to others; that they should proclaim these things unto the world, and all this that it might be fulfilled which was written by the prophets.”—See Book of Doctrine and Covenants, section first.

When the Jewish nation was forewarned of their great destruction by the Saviour and his apostles, the Jews would not believe the Saviour's declarations but mocked at his sayings. Between 80 and 40 years afterwards when those destructions were falling upon the Jews in fulfillment of the savior's prediction concerning them, they still could not see that it was in accordance with the Saviour's statement. But in this age of the world the people greatly wonder at the stupidity of the Jews; while at the same time there are more than fifty times the amount of the judgements of God being poured out upon this generation in fulfillment of Joseph Smith's revelations; yet the great mass of the people are as equally dull in their apprehension.

of these things as the Jews were of their destructions. And still to see the millions of people mocking at Joseph Smith's revelations, while the awful calamities predicted by him are positively being fulfilled literally upon their own heads, which is truly a great wonder to those who are in possession of the knowledge of these important facts.

The revelations of Joseph Smith clearly show that he has in the name and by the authority of Jesus Christ, absolutely announced to the world of all mankind that the dreadful judgements of God spoken of by the holy prophets concerning the downfall of Babylon and the "distress of nations with perplexity" as declared by the Saviour, shall in all certainty fall upon this present generation of the nineteenth century. And yet the nations of the earth seem to be no better prepared to perceive their approaching ruin than the Jewish nation was before its fatal fall. It is certainly a very plain fact that the great civil war in the United States between the Northern and Southern States is in fulfillment of the revelation that Joseph Smith gave concerning the bloody scenes of war commencing at South Carolina, which Joseph Smith said, "will eventually terminate in the death and misery of many souls." Every history on the subject of the American civil war announces this fact, as well as public lecturers, statesmen, and all speakers and writers on this subject declare the same things concerning the horrid scenes of the civil war. The fact that the Federal Government did arm and discipline many thousands of the slaves to aid and assist in crushing out the rebellion, is in fulfillment of Joseph's revelation which says, "And it shall come to pass after many days, slaves, shall rise up against their masters who shall be marshaled and disciplined for war." And again the circumstance of the Indians raising themselves up in arms against the government of the United States is also in fulfillment of the prophecy of Joseph Smith, which says, "And it shall come to pass also, that the remnants (Indians) who are left of the land will marshal themselves and

shall become exceeding angry, and shall vex the gentiles with a sore vexation." The great destruction of human life and waste of property that has been committed against the people of the United States by the Indians, beginning with the massacre in Minnesota and the subsequent Indian wars recently extended through the Western Territories, which when taken in connection with the heavy expense of the Indian war upon the government is surely a very grievous vexation to the people of the United States. Another very important prophecy in Joseph Smith's revelations that is worthy of notice, which says: "The days will come that war will be poured out upon all nations beginning at South Carolina." After the rebellion and civil war began to rage furiously through the United States; then immediately the Mexican Republic was invaded by Maximilian through the assistance of Bonaparte, which brought on a war in Mexico. Then quickly followed the Danish war by an attack from the German States, and in quick succession followed the Austrian and Prussian war, involving Italy, and in addition to this the Italian revolution conducted by Garibaldi. And also the Candian war between the Cretans and Turks, and the Spanish invasion and wars upon the republics of South America and also the revolutions and wars that have spread through nearly all the republics of both central and South America; and to this must also be added the siege and war at Rome, the Pope fighting for his political arena and claims of church property, and also the rumored wars between Great Britain and the King of Abyssinia, and to this account should also be added the great China war, which has swept its millions from the stage of action into eternity; their accounts of their losses are very great extending from 25,000,000, to 100,000,000. O how awful the horrors of war must have been. But even after all this the bloody scene is not ended, the indications and rumors of wars and blood shed are greater to-day for a further continuance than they were

in the year 1861, when they first began in South Carolina. It is surely the height of folly for any man or set of men to say that Joseph Smith was not inspired when he predicted those wonderful events so accurately fulfilled and closely connected in the short space of only seven years, in which twenty-five nations of the earth have been involved in horrible war and blood shed to the loss of above 100,000,000, of human beings, and thousands of billions of dollars; such a waste of property and loss of life in so short a period of time cannot be found as a parallel in the history of the globe, and yet the dark forebodings show that war and revolution has only commenced. But this is not all, that Joseph Smith has revealed concerning the judgements of God that should be sent forth upon a proud and unregenerate world. The following is a revelation purporting to be the words of Christ to Joseph Smith, given March, 1831. "And in that day shall be heard of wars and rumors of wars, and the whole earth shall be in commotion and mens' hearts shall fail them, and they shall say that Christ delayeth his coming, until the end of the earth. And the love of men shall wax cold, and iniquity shall abound; and when the time of the Gentiles is come in, a light shall break forth among them that sit in darkness, and it shall be the fulness of my gospel, but they receive it not, for they perceive not the light, and they turn their hearts from me because of the precepts of men; and in that generation shall the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled; and there shall be men standing in that generation, that shall not pass, until they shall see an overflowing scourge; for a *desolating sickness* shall cover the land; but my disciples shall stand in holy places and shall not be moved; but among the wicked, men shall lift up their voices and curse God and die. And there shall be earthquakes, also, in divers places and many *desolations*, yet men will harden their hearts against me; and they will take up the sword one against another, and they will *kill one another*."—Book. D. C. Sec, 15 par. 4.

Among the many scourges spoken of in the above revelation, it is evident the cholera is referred to in the "desolating sickness;" that was to "cover the land;" many millions of human beings have been swept down by that fatal disease. This terrible scourge of mankind called cholera was predicted by Joseph in another revelation given in March 1829, stating that it should be poured out upon the inhabitants of the earth from time to time, in the following words: "For a *desolating scourge* shall go forth among the inhabitants of the earth, and shall continue to be poured out, from time to time, if they repent not, until the earth is empty, and the inhabitants thereof are consumed away, and utterly destroyed by the brightness of my coming. Behold I tell you these things even as I also told the people of the destruction of Jerusalem, and my word shall be verified at this time as it hath hitherto been verified."—"Book D. C. Sec. 82, par. 3. The cholera first appeared on the Western Continent in 1832, and since the year 1829 this terrible scourge of mankind has been poured out upon the inhabitants of both continents at three separate periods of time. The people of the United States suffered severely from the cholera between the years 1846 and 1854. The very name of cholera, upon entering a town or village, struck terror to its inhabitants, yet under all those severe chastisements, the people grew proud, haughty and insolent toward each other, and the churches as well as the States divided against each other, filled with hatred and revenge, and between the years 1861 and 1866 they took up the sword as Joseph Smith truly said, and killed each other by hundreds of thousands.

In rage to kill with spear and musket,
They scorned the warning of the prophet.
Eager to glut in each others' blood,
They filled Joseph Smith's prophetic
word.

Thus saint and sinner fought to win,
What moral suasion should have won.
But when light, the blind refuse to see,
Then God's judgements they justly receive.

Men in these last days much resemble the Jewish Pharisees, who professed to know God but denied the Christ. The sectarian world profess to have a form of godliness but deny the power and gifts of the Holy Ghost, believing that they ceased with the apostles. As much as to say, "since the fathers have fallen to sleep all things remain as they were." The gifts of the Holy Ghost are denied by all the sectarian factions, especially the gift of prophecy. Therefore in their unbelief of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, they are prepared, like the Jews, to reject the counsel of God, and fulfill the very identical things that the prophets declared should fall upon their own heads to their final overthrow. Though they have learned many useful arts and sciences, and attained to great knowledge in many things, especially the affairs of this world, yet they do not rightly comprehend that spiritual light in which the wisdom of God is made manifest to his saints through the operation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to the gospel of Christ, and especially the gift of prophecy, through which the great wisdom and knowledge from God is conveyed to his servants the prophets by revelation through faith in God. "Faith is the gift of God;" the great leading principle of righteousness. "Without faith it is impossible to please God." If God speaks to men by his prophets and they do not receive his word they will be offensive in his sight, and incur the threatened judgments.—The Jews rejected their prophets because they did not believe they were sent of God. They fell an ignominious fall.—Sectarianism is Babylon comprising the mother and her daughters; they reject all modern prophets and prophecies, Babylon is gentile; and the greatest of the great has said she shall fall. The warning voice of the Lord has gone forth in these last days by the Spirit of prophecy, declaring that the great event of the downfall of Babylon is at hand. And that the saints should gather out from her dominions and "stand in holy places," or in other words to gather together and dwell in

places where the Lord has appointed as places of safety, where he will protect them if they will keep all his commandments. Joseph Smith, who spake as a prophet sent of God, proclaiming the judgements that shall fall upon the wicked and unregenerate of mankind, has also by the authority and wisdom of God, pointed out a place of gathering for the saints in the State of Missouri, in Jackson county, and the counties round about, as being the first place to which the saints should gather and stand or dwell as in a "holy place." It being the appointed place of God where the righteous shall dwell together in peace and safety until that place is full, when other places will be appointed. But they that will not keep the peace of God walking in all righteousness, God is able to send them away and make room for those that are more worthy, for God will gather the righteous. Therefore, let those who have faith, and love God, keep his commandments, and not fear; for God will gather his saints out of Babylon from the four corners of the earth, to "stand in holy places," where they shall dwell together in all righteousness and be prepared to meet the Lord Jesus Christ at his coming. The saints in these last days have a sure foundation as to the place of Zion, which is appointed by the hand of the blessed Lord to be in the State of Missouri as the following revelations plainly declare: "Hearken, O ye elders of my church, saith the Lord your God, who have assembled yourselves together according to my commandments, in this land which is the land of Missouri, which is the land which I have appointed and consecrated for the gathering of the saints. Wherefore, this is the land of promise and the place for the city of Zion. And thus saith the Lord your God, if you will receive wisdom, here is wisdom. Behold the place which is now called Independence, is the center place, and the spot for the Temple is lying westward upon a lot which is not far from the Court House; wherefore, it is wisdom that the land should be purchased by the saints." Joseph Smith, given in 1831.—Book, D. C. Section 27, par. 1st.

And again, "A revelation of Jesus Christ unto his servant Joseph Smith, jr., and six elders, as they united their hearts and lifted their voices on high; yea, the word of the Lord concerning his church established in the last days for the restoration of his people as he has spoken by the mouth of his prophets, and for the gathering of his saints to stand upon mount Zion, which shall be the city New Jerusalem, which city shall be built, beginning

the Temple Lot, which is appointed by the finger of the Lord, in the western boundaries of the State of Missouri, and dedicated by the hand of Joseph Smith, jr., and others, with whom the Lord was well pleased. Verily, this is the word of the Lord, that the city New Jerusalem shall be built by the gathering of the saints, beginning at this place, even the place of the temple, which temple shall be reared in this generation; for verily, this generation shall not all pass away until an house shall be built unto the Lord, and a cloud shall rest upon it, which cloud shall be even the glory of the Lord which shall fill the house." Joseph Smith, given in 1832, Book D. C. section 4, par. 1 and 2.

And again: "And now, behold this is the will of the Lord your God concerning his saints that they should assemble themselves together unto the land of Zion, not in haste lest there should be confusion, which bringeth pestilence. Behold the land of Zion! I the Lord holdeth it in mine own hand, nevertheless, I the Lord rendereth unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's. Wherefore, I the Lord will-eth, that you should purchase the lands, that you may have advantage of the world, that you may have claim upon the world, that they may not be stirred up to anger; for satan putteth it into their hearts to anger against you, and to the shedding of blood; wherefore the land of Zion shall not be obtained but by purchase." Joseph Smith, given in 1831.—Book D. C. Section 20, par 8.

And again: "Hearken O ye elders of my church, and give ear to my word, and learn of me what I will concerning you and also concerning this land unto which I have sent you; for verily

I say unto you, blessed is he that keepeth my commandments, whether in life or in death; and he that is faithful in tribulation the reward of the same is greater in the kingdom of heaven. Ye cannot behold with your natural eyes, for the present time, the design of your God concerning those things which shall come hereafter, and the glory which shall follow, after much tribulation. For after much tribulation cometh the blessings.

Wherefore, the day cometh that ye shall be crowned with much glory; the hour is not yet but is nigh at hand. Remember this which I tell you before, that you may lay it to heart, and receive that which shall follow. Behold, verily I say unto you, for this cause I have sent you that you might be obedient, and that your hearts might be prepared to bear testimony of the things which are to come; and also that you might be honored of laying the foundation, and of bearing record of the land upon which the Zion of God shall stand." * * "Let no man break the laws of the land, for he that keepeth the laws of God, hath no need to break the laws of the land; wherefore be subject to the powers that be, until he (Christ) reigns whose right it is to reign, and subdue all enemies under his feet. Behold the laws which ye have received from my hand, are the laws of the church; and in this light ye shall hold them forth. Behold here is wisdom." Joseph Smith, given 1831, Book D. C. Section 18, par. 1st to 5th.

The following revelation as well as those before mentioned show that the appointed place for the gathering of the saints is never to be moved from Jackson and the surrounding counties, in the State of Missouri; and that no other place or places shall ever be appointed for the gathering of the saints until that place which is already appointed is first filled up by the saints, and after that, then other places will be appointed as stakes of Zion, for the work of the gathering.

"Zion shall not be moved out of her place notwithstanding her children are scattered; they that remain and are pure in heart, shall return and come to their

inheritance, they and their children, with songs of everlasting joy, to build up the waste places of Zion; and all these things that the prophets might be fulfilled: and behold there is none other place appointed, neither shall there be any other place appointed than that which I have appointed for the work of the gathering of my saints, until the day cometh when there is found no more room for them; and then I have other places which I will appoint unto them, and they shall be called stakes for the curtains or the strength of Zion." Joseph Smith, given Dec. 1833—Book D. C. Section 97, par 4.

The foregoing revelations establish the fact beyond all possibility of doubt that the only appointed place for the gathering of the saints is in the State of Missouri, from whence they were driven out because of transgressions by which the enemy had power to disperse them. The revelation showing the cause of their being driven out and scattered is in the following words. "Behold I say unto you there were jarrings, and contentions, and envyings, and strifes, and lustful and covetous desires among them, therefore by these things they polluted their inheritances. They were slow to hearken unto the voice of the Lord their God. Therefore the Lord their God is slow to hearken unto their prayers, to answer them in the day of their trouble. In the day of their peace they esteemed lightly my counsel; but in the day of their trouble of necessity they feel after me. Verily, I say unto you, notwithstanding their sins, my bowels are filled with compassion towards them; I will not utterly cast them off, and in the day of wrath I will remember mercy. I have sworn, and the decree hath gone forth by a former commandment which I have given unto you, that I would let fall the sword of mine indignation in the behalf of my people; and even as I have said it shall come to pass. Mine indignation is soon to be poured out without measure upon all nations, and this will I do when the cup of their iniquity is full. And in that day, all who are found upon the watch tower, or in other words, all mine Israel shall be saved. And they that

have been scattered shall be gathered." Joseph Smith, given in 1833.—Book D. C. Section 97, par 3 and 4.

The above quotation shows very clearly that the saints were driven from Missouri because of their own transgressions; but it also shows that after certain things should transpire they should be a gathering of the saints back to the appointed place of Zion. The falling of the sword and laying waste the lands in Missouri are the special things that the afore-mentioned revelation predicts should first transpire to open and prepare the way for the return of the saints; "that I would let fall the sword of mine indignation in the behalf of my people." There never was a more exact fulfillment of any prophecy announced by inspired pens or lips, than the accomplishment of this positive fact; that the civil war in a day of wrath and indignation upon the people, has laid waste vast regions of land in the State of Missouri, which has opened and prepared the way for the return of the saints as the prophet Joseph Smith has said; and yet the people do not perceive this fact, and unfortunately there are many who believe in the gathering of the saints that have not been sufficiently awakened to their best interests on this subject which if they neglect to avail themselves of the benefits of this opportunity of emigrating to the place appointed for the gathering of the saints, they will be greatly affected to their injury both temporally and spiritually for a long time to come; all those having property by a fair disposal at cash value can purchase an equal amount of property and often more in the land of Missouri, and certainly the laws of Missouri under the circumstances in which they have been established are the most praiseworthy of any other State. If a man is loyal he will be protected; if he is Christian his rights and privileges are guaranteed; what more could any man of moral and civil habits desire in social life? the climate is mild and healthful the soil is rich and the aspects of the country most beautiful; every thing in nature is inviting, all things are ready and prepared for you, and God himself is calling

you; if you will but keep His commandments then you have God's assurance he will protect you; whereas if you have faith in God's warning voice and respectfully believe in the gathering of the saints of God, then go ye in to the promise land.

"Hearken, O ye people of my church, saith the Lord your God and hear the word of the Lord concerning you; the Lord who shall suddenly come to his temple; the Lord who shall come down upon the world with a curse to judgement; yea upon all the nations that forget God; and upon all the ungodly among you. For he shall make bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of their God. Wherefore, prepare ye, prepare ye, O my people; sanctify yourselves; gather ye together, O ye people of my church, upon the land of Zion, all you that have not been commanded to tarry. Go ye out from Babylon. Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord. Call your solemn assemblies, and speak often one to another. And let every man call upon the name of the Lord; yea, verily I say unto you again, the time has come when the voice of the Lord is unto you. Go ye out of Babylon; gather ye out from among the nations, from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. Send forth the elders of my church unto the nations which are afar off; unto the islands of the sea; send forth unto foreign lands; call upon all nations; firstly, upon the Gentiles, and then upon the Jews. And behold and lo this shall be their cry, and the voice of the Lord unto all people. Go ye forth unto the land of Zion, that the borders of my people may be enlarged, and that her stakes may be strengthened, and that Zion may go forth unto the regions round about; yea, let the cry go forth among all people; Awake and arise and go forth to meet the Bridegroom; behold and lo the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Prepare yourselves for the great day of the Lord. Watch, therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour. Let them therefore, who are among the Gentiles, flee unto Zion. And let them

who be of Judah, flee unto Jerusalem, unto the mountains of the Lord's house. Go ye out from among the nations, even from Babylon from the midst of wickedness, which is spiritual Babylon. But verily thus saith the Lord, let not your flight be in haste, but let all things be prepared before you; and he that goeth, let him not look back, lest sudden destruction shall come upon him. Hearken and hear O ye inhabitants of the earth. Listen ye elders of my Church together, and hear the voice of the Lord, for he calleth upon all men, and he commandeth all men every where to repent; for behold the Lord God hath sent forth the angel, crying through the midst of Heaven, saying: Prepare ye the way of the Lord and make his paths straight, for the hour of his coming is nigh, when the Lamb shall stand upon mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads: Wherefore, prepare ye for the coming of the Bridegroom; go ye out to meet him, for behold he shall stand upon the mount of Olivet, and upon the mighty ocean, even the great deep and upon the islands of the sea, and upon the land of Zion; and he shall utter his voice out of Zion, and he shall speak from Jerusalem, and his voice shall be heard among all people, and it shall be a voice as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder, which shall break down the mountains, and the valleys shall not be found: he shall command the great deep, and it shall be driven back into the north countries; and the islands shall become one land, and the land of Jerusalem and the land of Zion, shall be turned back into their own place, and the earth shall be like as it was in the days before it was divided. And the Lord even the Saviour shall stand in the midst of his people, and shall reign over all flesh." Joseph Smith, given in 1831.—Book D. C. Section 100, par. 1 to 8.

That the set time for the gathering of the saints has come, and the place appointed by the hand of the Lord is clearly established by the foregoing revelations

as well as the signs of the times, concur in the fulfillment of all the prophets on the subject of the gathering of the saints. And last of all a revelation was given to this Church on the 24th day of April, 1864 showing plainly that it was the will of the Lord the saints should gather back to Zion in the State of Missouri, and that the way would be opened for them to begin to return in the year A. D. 1867. The way has been opened for the saints to return and they are now gathering back to the place where the Lord has appointed for the Zion of God to stand. And all the pure in heart are hereby invited to return and none others. Those who transgress the laws of the church, will also break the laws of the land, and all such are requested to stay away.

The laws of Missouri are most admirably well adapted for a legal protection of the religion of Christ, in the observance of all the laws and ordinances of the Christian institution, which is one of the greatest blessings of God in the gift of a free government bestowed upon a free people for civil and religious protection; and every saint will feel to adore the God of heaven with gratitude for those just and equitable laws of the land and every transgressor known to the church as a violator of the laws of Christ and the just laws of the land shall not be tolerated by the church of Christ (of latter day saints); and further all the false doctrines that are taught and practiced among the different organizations of those unworthily called latter day saints, which have ever been repudiated by all the true followers of Christ; and are hereby again publicly rejected as not being any part or parcel of the doctrine and teachings of the *true Church of Christ* (of latter day saints,) such as the following; Viz: The doctrine of polygamy; teaching that a man should have a plurality of wives; this abominable practice is rejected by this church as being the doctrine of the devil.

The doctrine of baptism for the dead by proxy; which teaches that a living man shall be baptized for a dead man: this foolish doctrine is rejected by this church as being unscriptural and desti-

tute of logical principles, and therefore false.

The doctrine of polytheism, which teaches the plurality of Gods; that there are many gods abounding through the great universe of creation, as being seated upon their separate thrones and ruling over their dominions, and also that all those gods descended from men, and that the first god, as it is termed, was once a man, and grew by degrees to be god, and that men by a system of exaltation will eventually become to be gods: these ridiculous things are taught and believed by some of those fictitious organizations unworthily called latter day saints; according to their faith, when they pray there are many gods that may answer them, and since the "devil had power to transform himself into an angel of light," they may have mistaken him for one of them; this is very probable, for some of their leading men have believed that they would become to be gods, themselves, and although they pretended to deny polygamy yet some of their leading men have been accused for the practice of it; such is the natural fruit that might be expected to result from that abominable doctrine of the plurality of Gods. However the whole scheme may be summed up into the worst system of idolatry and heathenism the devil ever invented and imposed upon the ignorance of mankind, and is justly rejected by this church, as being unscriptural.

Tithing, that unequal and unjust law of tithing given in the Book of D. C. Section 107, in July, 8th 1838, which is indefinite in its qualifications and is a vile extortion in the manner of its exaction and is only fitted for ignorant dupes who refuse to discriminate right from wrong, therefore is wisely rejected by this church.

Book of Abraham. That pretended translation of the so called Papyrus, said to be taken from the Egyptian Mummies; fictitiously called "the Book of Abraham," which contains the doctrine of polytheism teaching the plurality of gods; contradictory to the sacred scriptures, and is therefore rejected by this church as a spurious work.

LINEAL PRIESTHOOD.

That despotic and tyrannical doctrine of lineal right to office in the Church of Christ, through a claim of family descent to be an heir to the office of President in the Church is monstrous!!! Why not the claim to office in the civil government to be President, through a family descent of blood royal just as good as that in the Church? It lacks but one thing at this present time, and that is dupe enough to believe it, and tyrants enough to enforce it, this is all that prohibits its claim from usurpation of the civil government. Is not this the identical doctrine of kings, monarchs, despots and tyrants. It strikes a death-blow at the very root of all free institutions, both civil and religious, and wherever its power is exerted, whether in Church or State, its withering influence is seen and felt upon all its subjects. Christianity soon fades away, and liberty dies out of existence. It certainly must appear evidently plain to every true lover of liberty and friend to Christianity, that every such claim of lineal right set up for office, whether in Church or State in a free government, is stamped with infamy upon the very face of it, and is therefore rejected by this Church, as being anti-republic, unscriptural, and anti-christian.

Now brethren, since it is an evident and well known fact that there are very many unworthily called latter day saints, who profess to believe in those foolish and contemptible doctrines, who have disgraced the noble cause of truth, and for a long time have manifested such great stupidity, in refusing to investigate their own false and pernicious doctrines, as before mentioned, being ruled down by their bigoted leaders, by which they have sunk into darkness, beneath the grades of surrounding society; where they are chained to bigotry and false teaching by their fanatical leaders, such a degraded system of things is calculated to contract the mind, blind the understanding, and corrupt the morals of any people. Therefore, in seeing the iniquity and abomination of those vile and polluted things, let us have no fellowship with the works of darkness, remember

ing the solemn warning of the prophets, and the experience of past ages, the awful calamities that have fallen upon the disobedient and unthankful, and also knowing, that the time is nigh at hand when the awful judgements are about to burst forth upon the lands of all transgressors and that none shall escape. Wo to the proud and the wicked of this generation, for the Lord has said it, His warning voice has gone forth in solemn proclamation to all people if they would hear it, but they have spoken many unjust and hard things against the right way of the Lord, and treated lightly the great things of his wonderful counsel, therefore, those terrible judgements spoken of against the wicked of this generation shall speedily come. Wherefore, let every saint that is worthy of the name, stand firm in the faith of the primitive organization of the Church of Christ, (which was organized on the 6th day of April, A. D. 1830,) and honor God in keeping all his commandments, according to the fullness of the everlasting gospel, trusting in God for his help in all righteousness, looking forward for the fulfillment of his word, spoken by the prophets, concerning the downfall of Babylon and the gathering of the saints, as has been shown before, and let every necessary preparation be made ready in due time, and go forth to the land that God has appointed for the temporal and spiritual blessings of the faithful, to inherit and long enjoy the fruits of their labors, where the congregations of the righteous shall assemble, and the holy ones meet, where Christ will appear in his great glory to the sanctified hosts of Zion. Let no one fail to trust in God, always remembering his spirit will dwell with the meek and upright, bearing witness to their souls in all truth and righteousness. And as the Lord God of Israel lives, these things are true and shall all be fulfilled in their time. Written to all the true saints of God everywhere, greeting.

GRANVILLE HEDRICK,
FEB. 2nd, A. D. 1868 *President.*

SECTION TWENTY-FIRST.

[Continued from Vol. 1, page 192.]
The following interesting remarks on
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this subject is from a worthy author (Mr. Gillis) who says :

"Relics of American arts are of peculiar interest, inasmuch as they are connected with the solution of the greatest problems in human history. Here is one half of the planet without a page of written record, without legends or traditions. From its first occupancy at a period whose date no one can tell or even conjecture, down to comparatively recent days, it presents to the historian, instead of a chronicle of dynasties of stirring actions and mighty events, a huge and silent blank—not the name of an individual nor the sound of a foot-fall preserved. Comparatively speaking, it was but yesterday that the continents were discovered, and the fact of their being in possession of a peculiar race proclaimed to the rest of the world; and now, as then, there is little more information to be obtained from the Indians respecting their predecessors than from the native quadrupeds. Whatever is to be known, has to be drawn out of the ground; out of what the plough turns up; what mounds, graves, and existing earth-works may disclose, and what architectural ruins may afford. These are the only archives remaining of the deeds and destinies of the old inhabitants of the hemisphere; and hence everything registered in them, however trifling under other circumstances it might be considered, has a value proportioned to the insight it may give into national or social habits and conditions. The American aborigines are melting away, and apart from the moral view of the subject, there is much that is due to them. Poor themselves, they have enriched others. Besides bequeathing to us the noblest of earthly inheritances, their contributions to the great staples of modern commerce have never been excelled. To say nothing of the fur-trade; nor of the metals, from gold and mercury to copper and lead, in unprecedented profusion; of bread plants, they gave us the potato, Indian corn, and mandioca; of poultry, the turkey and other fowls; of raw materials for manufactures, India-rubber;

of timber, mahogany, rose, satin, and at least two hundred other varieties of wood used in ship-building carpentry, and for dyeing furniture and ornamental wares; in medicine, Peruvian bark, jalap, and ipecacuanha. Then there is a list of plants, including tobacco, which have become necessities to such a degree that nations would stand aghast if threatened to be deprived of them. To a people to whom we owe so much, the least that we can do is to gather up for posterity whatever memorials of them may fall in our way. A change in terrestrial occupancy on such a scale is an episode unparalleled in the history of our globe; and though we who live during its accomplishment are in a manner indifferent to its magnitude and to its bearings on the destinies of the species, in coming times, it will be discussed and referred to as one of ever memorable significance." United States Naval Astronomical Expedition, Vol. 2, page 122 and 123.

The Antiquities of North America; chiefly in the United States: "In the absence of any written record of those numerous races which formerly peopled this hemisphere, information must be sought in their monuments, and in their disinterred relics of their ancient manner of life.—These, considering the almost unbroken wilderness which presented itself to the first white adventurers, are surprisingly numerous. They indicate the former existence of populous nations, excelling in many of the arts of civilization, and capable, by their numbers and combination, of executing the most gigantic works for religion, public defence, and commemoration of the dead. Such relics, though, for the most part, not immediately pertaining to the history of the Indian tribes, have supported the conjectures advanced by Humbolt and other eminent cosmographers, that these races are but the dwindled and degraded remains of once flourishing and populous nations. The retrograde process to which certain forms of incomplete civilization appear doomed, has perhaps been most strikingly exemplified in the differ-

ance to be discovered between the feeble and scattered tribes of the red race, and those powerful and populous communities who occupied the soil before them.—The relics of the former people, usually discovered on or slightly beneath the surface of the ground, are of a rude and simple character, differing little from the specimens, common among their descendants of the present day. The flint arrow-head, chipped painfully into shape—the stone tomahawk, knife, and chisel—the pipe, the rude pottery and savage ornaments, are the only relics; and these differ but little from the same articles still fabricated by their successors. Except among the Esquimaux, who occasionally use stone, and who avail themselves of the arch and dome in the construction of their snow huts, nothing like regular architecture can be assigned to the late or modern tribes occupying this continent northward of Mexico. The Indian tumuli, or mounds of burial, are generally small and of simple construction. It has however, been rationally supposed that the force of religious custom, surviving art and civilization, has preserved to the red tribes this characteristic method of their forefathers; and that the rude barrows, which they still erect, are but the puny and dwindled descendants of those mighty mounds and terraced pyramids which still rear their heads, from the isthmus to the lakes, and from the shores of Florida to the Mexican Cordilleras. The origin of these and of other unquestionably ancient remains, is to the antiquarian a question of the most lively and perplexing interest. Here, in unknown ages and for unknown periods, have existed wealth, power, and civilization; yet the remains by which these are indicated seem to furnish but a slight clew to the epoch and history of their long vanished constructors. Within the mounds and mural embankments scattered through a large portion of this country, are found the remains of high mechanical and scientific art. Pottery, the most fragile of man's works, yet almost indestructible by time, still remains in large quantities and in good preservation. In

the composition and coloring of these articles, much chemical skill is evinced; while in many cases, their grace of form and perfection of finish rival the remains of Grecian or Etruscan art. Some of these ancient vessels are of immense size; one disinterred from a Western mound being eighteen feet in length by six in breadth.

Glass beads of rare and elaborate construction have been found; stone ornaments, skillfully wrought, and brick, much resembling that in modern use, have been often discovered. Metallic remains are frequent. Copper, used both for weapons and for ornament, has often been found, and occasionally specimens, plated with silver, have been disinterred. At an ancient mound in Marietta, a silver cup finely gilded on the inside, was exposed to view by the washing of a stream. It has been often questioned whether the use of iron was known to these aboriginal races; but except the occasional presence of rust in the excavations, little has been ascertained with certainty—the perishable nature of that metal peculiarly exposing it to the destroying influence of time and dampness. Inscriptions upon rocks, mostly of a hieroglyphic character, are numerous; and on the walls of several caverns in the west, some extraordinary specimens may be seen. In the same gloomy receptacles have been found members of a species of mummy, most carefully prepared, and beautifully covered with colored feathers, symmetrically arranged. Stone coffins and burial urns of great beauty have also been disinterred from the western mounds. The mural remains in the United States alone, are of almost incredible number, and of most imposing magnitude. It has been asserted by an accurate western antiquarian—"I should not exaggerate if I were to say that more than 5,000 might be found, some of them enclosing more than a hundred acres." The mounds and tumuli, he remarks, are far more numerous. Professor Rafinesque ascertained the existence of more than 500 ancient monuments in Kentucky alone, and 1,400 in other States

most of which he had personally examined. These remains appear most numerous in the vicinity of the Mississippi and its tributaries, and near the great lakes and the rivers which flow into them. A striking proof of their immense antiquity is to be found in the fact that the latter stand upon the ancient margin of the lakes, from which, in some immemorial age, their waters are known to have receded.

It is remarkable that these peculiar works of antiquity touch the ocean only in Florida at the Southern extremity of the Atlantic coast; and their greater number and magnitude in the South, and West seem to fortify the supposition that their founders came originally from Mexico, and were, perhaps a people identical with the builders of Cholula and Teotihuacan. The extent of some of these works is extraordinary. In New York (where at least a hundred of them have been surveyed,) in the county of Onondaga, formerly existed the remains of a fortification enclosing more than five hundred acres. Three circular forts, disposed as a triangle, and situated about eight miles distant from each other, served as its outworks. In many of these fortified places, considerable military skill is evinced; angles, bastions, and curtains, being frequently traceable. "Though much defaced by time," says a traveller, of the intrenchments near Lake Pepin, "every angle was distinguishable, and appeared as regular, and fashioned with as much military skill, as if planned by Vauban himself." Some of the most remarkable of these works have been discovered in Georgia. On the banks of the Little River, near Wrightsborough, are found the remnants of "a stupendous conical pyramid, vast tetragon terraces, and a large sunken or excavated area of a cubical form, encompassed with banks of earth, and also the remains of an extensive town." Other and similar structures occur in the same region. On the Savannah, among other extensive remains, is a conical mound, truncated, fifty feet in height, and eight hundred in circumference at its base. In

other portions, of the same region, are found excavations, and vast quadrangular terraces. Florida abounds in vestiges of a similar nature. At the West, these remains assume a much more permanent and imposing character. On a branch of the Muskingum river, in Ohio, a series of intrenchments and mounds two miles in length, and of great solidity of structure, is found to exist. In Licking county, a most extensive range of fortifications, embracing or protecting an extent of several miles, has been traced. At Circleville, in the same State, were found two extensive earthen enclosures, one an exact circle, and the other a correct square, corresponding precisely to the cardinal points of the compass; and a mound ninety feet in height. In most of these and other similar ruins, stone was used, though to a limited extent. Parallel walls, communicating with the water, sometimes at a distance of several miles, are features common to many of those structures.—Farther West, the extensive use of brick in constructing similar edifices has been ascertained; and an arched sewer constructed of stone, indicates a knowledge of architecture far superior to that possessed by most semi-civilized nations.—In Missouri, and other regions of the West, the remains of stone buildings have been frequently discovered—in one instance, those of a town, regularly laid out in streets and squares, upon the Missouri and Arkansas rivers, some of the most extensive fortified works are found. In one of these, on the latter river, are two immense mounds, truncated, each eighty feet high, and one thousand in circumference at the base. These gigantic mounds are among the most interesting and thickly scattered relics of the vanished races. Many of them are tumuli, or sepulchres of the dead, others were connected with the defensive fortifications, and others of the grandest and most imposing aspect, were probably huge altars of idolatrous worship. (The usual material employed in their construction is earth, though occasionally they have been built of stone.) In gener-

pl, these ancient mounds may be distinguished from those of the Indians by their greater size, and still more certainly by the nature of their contents.—Some of these latter have already been described. Besides utensils of lead, silver, and copper, the oxydized remains of iron have been found. Mica mirrors of various sizes, with a variety of marine shells are among the deposits.

The practice of burning the dead appears to have been common, masses of ashes, and charcoal are often found mixed with incinerated bones. In Fairfield county, Ohio, a huge earthenware caldron, placed upon a furnace, was disinterred. It was eighteen feet long by six broad; and contained the skeletons of twelve persons, besides various articles, which had been buried with them. They were in a large mound, fifteen feet below the surface of the earth. In the great mound at Circleville, an immense number of skeletons were found, all laid with their heads towards the centre. In Illinois, nearly opposite St Louis, within the circuit of a few miles, are more than one hundred and fifty mounds, some of extraordinary size. One of them, formerly occupied by monks of the Order of La Trappe, is ninety feet in height and nearly half a mile in circumference. It is a remarkable circumstance that the soil of which these huge cones are constructed, must occasionally have been brought from a great distance. Many others of great size, varying somewhat in form, yet all evincing a striking similarity in construction, might also be described.—The occasional existence of terraces or stages of ascent would seem to indicate a similarity of origin with the pyramidal structures of Mexico. Indeed, it is difficult to suppose that the authors of these extensive remains could have had other than a South-Western origin. All are ancient in the extreme; yet probably they were erected by successive races, and the most venerable antiquity seems attached to the forest-covered mounds of the West. Mr. Bradford, in his interesting researches into the origin of the Red Race, adopts with safety the following

conclusions in regard to the ancient occupants of our soil: 1st, That they were all of the same origin, branches of the same race, and possessed of similar customs and institutions.

2nd, That they were populous, and occupied a great extent of territory.

3d, That they had arrived at a considerable degree of civilization, were associated in large communities and lived in extensive cities." See, "INDIAN RACES OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA," by Mr. BROWNELL, pages 42 to 49. Also see PARLEY'S CABINET LIBRARY, Volume 12, pages 275 to 294.

SECTION TWENTY-TWO.

In the foregoing Section, the reader will perceive quite an interesting narration, on the subject of American Antiquities, as is quoted from Mr. Brownell's work, entitled, "INDIAN RACES," published in 1864. This author seems to have written very impartially and less encumbered with those pet notions of erroneous views, concerning the Indian origin, which has so wonderfully entangled various authors, on this subject. Mr. Brownell seems to have aimed at detailing a general history of facts, and like the famed Stephens and Catherwood, leaving the decision with the candid reader. Before further quotations are presented from this author, it appears that it would be essential to lay some important information before the reader concerning the facilities that were in the hands of the aboriginal inhabitants of America, for constructing those wonderful works of art, which have ever been considered by most if not all historians as a great mystery, how they could have operated, without the use of iron and the aid of some domestic animals in rearing those large mounds, and the cutting and removing such large blocks of stone from the quarrying grounds, and the placing of them into those walled cities of their fortifications, and also wonderful pyramids, towers, temples, roads and aqueducts, which have been discovered in such vast numbers in the wilds of America. To many it has been

a great mystery how they were constructed from the fact that when the natives of America were first discovered by the Europeans, the art of working in iron, and the service of domestic animals were unknown to the natives; or at least there is no history; neither memory of tradition worthy of reliance that reflects any light on the subject of animal service, (except a very limited use of the Lama,) but like the history of their own origin, they seem to have forgotten all; yet the antiquities of the country show that their forefathers had a knowledge of both; as will be seen in the following pages of this work.

HIEROGLYPHICS.

"On the Ohio, twenty miles below the mouth of the Wabash, is a cavern, in which are found many hieroglyphics, and representations of such delineations as would induce the belief, that their authors, were, indeed, comparatively refined and civilized. It is a cave in a rock or ledge of the mountain, which presents itself to view a little above the water of the river when in a flood, and is situated close to the bank. * * This cavern measures about twelve rods in length, and five in width; its entrance presents a width of eighty feet at its base, and twenty-five feet high. The interior walls are smooth rock. The floor is very remarkable, being level through the whole length of its centre; the sides rising in stony grades, in the manner of seats in the pit of a theatre. On a diligent scrutiny of the walls it is plainly discerned that the ancient inhabitants at a very remote period, had made use of the cave as a house of deliberation and council. The walls bear many hieroglyphics well executed; and some of them represent animals, which have no resemblance to any now known to natural history. The sun, in different stages of rise and declension; the moon under various phases; a snake biting its tail, and representing an orb or circle; a viper; a vulture; buzzards tearing out the heart of a prostrate man; a panther held by the ears by a child; a crocodile; several trees and sarubs; a fox; a curious kind of hydra

serpent; two doves; several bears, two scorpions; an eagle; an owl; some quails; *eight representations of animals which are now unknown.* Three out of the eight are like the elephant in all respects
(*To be continued.*)

THE SECOND VOLUME of the Truth Teller will be published in this city, Independence, Mo.

NOTICES.

THE EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE will be addressed to GRANVILLE HEDRICK, Washburne, Illinois.

The character of the Truth Teller is sufficiently represented in the previous volume. The first numbers of the second volume will be chiefly devoted to the proof of the book of Mormon, until that subject is completed. SUBSCRIBERS are hereby solicited. FIFTY cents accompanying their plain address will secure the first six numbers; but will be discontinued to all others.

SAMUEL HOCKIN, Agent.

All correspondence and remittance for the Truth Teller, must be addressed to Samuel Hockin, Independence, Mo., P. O. Box, 114.

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The Truth Teller.

VOL. 2.] INDEPENDENCE, MO., DECEMBER 1868. [NO. 2

Tell the Truth: The Truth will tell. Truth will prevail, and never fail.

GRANVILLE HEDRICK,]

PUBLISHED BY THE CHURCH.

[EDITOR.

The Truth Teller—Will advocate the Primitive Organization of the Church of Jesus Christ (of Latter Day Samts,) which was organized on the 6th day of April, 1830, and maintain the Divinity of the Bible and Book of Mormon, and Also that Joseph Smith was once a great and true Prophet of God.

SECTION TWENTY-TWO.

[Continued from Vol. 2., No. 1, page 16.]

except the tusk and the tail. Two more resemble the tiger. * * Besides these were several fine representations of men and women, clothed not as the Indians, but much in the costume of Greece and Rome. * * All human sciences flourished among the Egyptians long before they were common to any other people. The Grecians in the days of Solon, about 600, B. C.: Pythagoras, about the same time; Herodotus, about 450 B. C., and Plato a little later, acquired in Egypt all that knowledge of nature which rendered them so eminent and remarkable. But the Egyptian priests did not divulge their doctrines, but by the aid of signs and figurative emblems. Their manner was to discover to their auditors the mysteries of God and nature in hieroglyphics: which were certain visible shapes and forms of creatures, whose inclinations and dispositions led to the knowledge of the truths intended for instruction. All their divinity, philosophy, and their greatest secrets, were comprehended in these ingenious characters. * * The hieroglyphic carved in this cave, which represents a child holding or leading a panther, brings forcibly

to the mind a similar idea in the Hebrew scriptures, in the book of Isaiah, chapter 11th, 6th verse, where it is said, "the wolf, the leopard and the young lion shall be led by a child," and relates to the period when both natural and moral evil shall have no existence in the earth, as is believed by some, (the Nephites brought with them the writings of Isaiah.) In this cave, it appears, there are sketched on the rock the figures of several animals, now extinct; among which are three, much resembling the elephant, the tail and tusks excepted. It would be passing the bounds of credulity to suppose the artists who delineated those figures, would represent no less than eight animals, differing in their configuration, one from the other, which had in reality no being, and such as these had never been seen. We suppose the animals resembling the elephant, to have been the mammoth, and that those ancients were well acquainted with the creature, or they could never have engraved it on the rock." From American Antiquities, by Josiah Priest, pages 139 to 145.

It is stated in the foregoing quotations that many of the sciences flourished among the Egyptians at a very early period, where Solon and Pythagoras, 600

years before Christ, acquired that remarkable knowledge from the Egyptians which rendered them so conspicuous in the world.

It is also stated in the Book of Mormon that Lehi and Nephi, the leaders and founders of a colony of Israelites upon the Western Continent, who left Jerusalem 600 years before Christ, (first book of Nephi, chapter 5, par. 47,) and were taught in the learning of the Egyptians and also the Jews; might they have not been as wise as Solon and Pythagoras; and if renowned Greece and Rome received their knowledge of letters, architecture sculpture and other costumes from Egypt; which is affirmed by historians, then why not a colony of educated Israelites from Jerusalem taught also in the lore of the Egyptians and learning of the Jews, be able to construct similar works of art in America, and stamp their monuments and edifices, with their mysterious hieroglyphics, which have spread nearly over the entire continent, and are generally supposed to bear a foreign resemblance. Hence, the origin of some of those antiquities may then be traced back to Egypt through the Book of Mormon in a direct line, which is in accordance with the most reliable history of the American antiquities. See Book of Mormon, in the first book of Nephi, chapter 1, par. 1., where Nephi says, "I make a record in the language of my father, which consists of the learning of the Jews, and the language of the Egyptians," and again in the book of Mosiah it is said, in chapter 1, par. 1., "For it were not possible that our father Lehi could have remembered all these things, to have taught them to his children, except it were for the help of these plates; for he having been taught in the language of the Egyptians, therefore, he could read these engravings, and teach them to his children." Hence, it may be seen according to the Book of Mormon that a knowledge of the Egyptian language of hieroglyphics was brought to America, nearly 600 years before Christ, which may account for the numerous

hieroglyphical characters found among the American antiquities.

The Book of Mormon gives an account of quite a number of domestic animals found by the Nephites upon the American Continent, first book of Nephi, chapter 5, par. 45, "And it came to pass that we did find upon the land of promise, as we journeyed in the wilderness, that there were beasts in the forests of every kind, both the cow and the ox, and the ass and the horse, and the goat and the wild goat, and all manner of wild animals, which were for the use of men." And again the Book of Mormon says they had "all manner of cattle, of oxen and cows, and of sheep, and of swine, and of goats, and, also, many other kind of animals, which were useful for the food of man; and they also had *horses* and *asses*, and there were *elephants* and *cureloms* and *cumoms*; all of which were useful unto man, and more especially the elephants and *cureloms*, and *cumoms*." See Book of Ether, 4th chapter, 3rd par.

Hence, the Book of Mormon shows that there were a variety of useful animals formerly in possession of the aboriginal inhabitants of America. It is a very remarkable coincidence, of the circumstance of there being found engraved upon the rock in the cave, those three animals much resembling the elephant, so wonderfully concurring with the account of the elephants, cureloms and cumoms described in the Book of Mormon. It should be remembered that the *American Antiquities*, by Priest, were first published in 1833, three years after the first publication of the Book of Mormon. The fact that those singular animals once existed, though now extinct, is fully demonstrated by the numerous fossil remains of bones and even whole skeletons that have been discovered in many parts of the continent in both North and South America. In presenting the fossil remains and other indications of those animals; that of the horse will also be included, showing that the horse was a native of this continent long anterior to the discovery of America by the Europeans.

The Mastodon or Mammoth, from the

"American Antiquities." "Whoever has examined the skeleton of one of those animals, now in the Philadelphia museum, will acknowledge the bones are equal to bars of brass or iron. Its height over the shoulders, eleven feet; from the point of the nose to the end of the tail, following the exterior or curve, is twenty one feet; a single tooth weighs four pounds ten ounces. The rib bones are six inches in width, and in thickness three; the whole skeleton as it is, with the exception of a few bones, weighs one thousand pounds." This skeleton, in Peale's museum, is one out of nine skeletons of this monster, which were dug out of the earth in the neighborhood of the Shongum Mountain, in Ulster county on the Southwestern side of the State of New York, eight of which were sent to Europe, (see Spafford's Gazetteer of New York.) Near Rochester, in the State of New York, in 1833, two teeth of this animal were discovered but a small depth beneath the surface. They were found in the town of Perrinton, near Fullam's Basin, by Mr. William Mann, who was engaged in digging up a stump. They were deposited about four feet below the surface of the earth. These were in a tolerably good state of preservation; the roots began to crumble a little, but the enamel of the teeth is in almost a perfect state. The teeth were the grinders, and from their appearance were located in the back part of the upper jaw. The largest one weighed three pounds ten ounces, measuring six inches lengthwise of the jaw, and three inches across the top, the root is about six inches long with several prongs. The other tooth is smaller. * * Dr. Adam Clark mentions, in his commentary on the subject of this animal, denominated behemoth in Job, 40th chapter, 15th verse, that he had weighed one of the very smallest grinders of an animal of this supposed extinct race, and found it, in its very dry state, to weigh four pounds eight ounces; the same grinder of an elephant, says Dr. Clark, I have weighed also, and find it but two pounds. The mammoth, there-

fore, continues this great author, from this proportion must have been as large as two elephants and a quarter." American Antiquities, pages 145 to 147. In the vicinity of May's Lick, on Salt Spring, in the State of Kentucky, on the account of its saline substances formerly attracted the animals of the forest in those marshes which are usual in such places, where the frames of those large animals are often found sunk in the mire. American Antiquities, page 148.

"In the State of Missouri, near White river and Strawberry river, are certain ranges of mountains, at whose base, in a certain spot, are found large quantities of these bones gathered in a small compass." American Antiquities, page 148. Also, see Beck's Gazetteer of Illinois and Missouri, page 332.

"At St. Helen's point, North of Guayaquil, in the Republic of Columbia, South America, on the coast of the Pacific, on the equator are found the enormous remains of this animal." Also, "at New Grenada, in the same province, and on the ridge of the Mexican Cordilleras, vast quantities of the remains of this huge beast are found.—[Humbolt's Researches in South America.]"—From American Antiquities, page 149.

"A Mr. Stanley, taken prisoner by the Indians near the mouth of the Tennessee river, relates that after being transferred through several tribes, was at length carried over the mountains West of the Missouri, to a river which runs westwardly; that these bones abounded there."—American Antiquities, page 150.

Mr. Mayer, in quoting another author, says, "Latrobe, at page 144, of his rambles in Mexico, relates that some workmen in excavating for a canal at Chapingo, (a hacienda near Tezcoco,) reached at the distance of four feet below the surface, an ancient causeway, of the existence of which there had not been the remotest suspicion. The cedar piles by which the sides were supported were still sound at heart; and three feet below the edge of this ancient work they struck upon the entire skeleton of a Mastodon

imbedded in blue clay. The diameter of the tusk was eighteen inches. Wherever extensive excavations have been made on the table-land and in the valley, of late years, remains of this animal have almost always been met with. In the foundation of the church of Guadalupe—on the estate of St. Nicholas, four leagues to the South, and in Guadaluajara, portions of the skeleton have been discovered. Had the ancients some means of taming these beasts into laborers for their gigantic architecture?—*Mayer's Mexico*, page 232.

What better evidence could be required to confirm the belief that some such large animals as the elephant or mastodon, were employed in constructing that very causeway which over laid the skeleton of that large beast, that was found buried beneath the ruins of that ancient road. The Book of Mormon says the ancient inhabitants of America had “elephants, cureloms and cumoms all of which were useful unto man.” Are not the terms Mastodon and Megalonyx only other names for the Cureloms and Cumoms? When Lehi and Nephi left Jerusalem 600 years B. C., and being educated in the learning of both the Egyptians and the Jews, they could not have failed to have had some knowledge of the elephant, which was known in that country; therefore, when they came to the New World and found the elephant or at least a species of animal that so closely resembled the elephant they would very readily have called it by the same name; but when they found other large animals different from the elephant, and unknown to them upon the Eastern continent, they would naturally have originated other names for those strange and newly discovered animals, and hence have called them Cureloms and Cumoms, as is translated in the Book of Mormon.

The following will show a large number, of fossil bones, of the Mastodon, the Elephant, and other species of large animals once indigenous to this continent, indicating a period of their existence both before and after the great deluge, but chiefly since the flood.

“*Fossil Mammalia of the United States.* The extinct species of the higher orders of animals found fossil in the United States are Mastodon giganteum, Elephas primigenius, another Elephant (a tooth only being known, differing considerably from the tooth of either the living or fossil species,) Megatherium, Megalonyx, Bos Bombifrons, Bos Pallasii, Bos Latifrons, Cervus Americanus, or fossil Elk of Wistar and Walrus. Of living species also found fossil, we may enumerate the Horse, the Bison, and three or four species of Deer. The situations in which these have been found have either very recent undisturbed alluvial bogs, or a slightly disturbed marshy deposit like Big Bone Lick, neither of them covered by the general diluvium; thirdly, boggy beds containing lignite referable to an ancient alluvium, covered by diluvial sand and gravel; and lastly, the floors of caves buried to a very small depth with earth not described. The largest collections of bone-remains occur in boggy grounds called Licks, affording salt, in quest of which the herbivorous animals, wild and domestic, enter the marshy spot and are sometimes mired. The most noted of these deposits is Big Bone Lick in Kentucky, occupying the bottom of a boggy valley kept wet by a number of salt-springs which rise over a surface of several acres.

The spot is thus described by Mr Cooper: “The substratum of the country is a fossiliferous limestone. At the Lick the valley is filled up to the depth of not less than thirty feet with unconsolidated beds of earth of various kinds. The uppermost of these is a light yellow clay, which apparently is no more than the soil brought down from the high grounds by rains and land-floods. In this yellow earth are found, along the water-courses at various depths, the bones of Buffaloes (Bison) and other modern animals, many broken, but often quite entire. Beneath this is another thinner layer of different soil, bearing the appearance of having been formerly the bottom of a marsh. It is more gravelly, darker colored, softer,

and contains remains of reedy plants, smaller than the cane so abundant in some parts of Kentucky. In this layer, and sometimes partially imbedded in a stratum of blue clay, very compact and tenacious, are deposited the bones of extinct species."

Mr. Cooper has been at the pains to compute, from the teeth and other parts known to have been removed from Big Bone Lick, the number of individuals requisite to furnish the specimens already carried off:—

Mastodon maximus, -	100 individuals,
Elephas primigenius -	20 "
Megalonyx Jeffersonii -	1 "
Bos Bombifrons, - - -	2 "
Bos Pallasii, - - - -	1 "
Cervus Americæus, -	2 "

and it is probable that some still remain behind. "It is possible that the horse ought to be added to this list of animals once indigenous to America. During the early settlement of the country, the great bones were either lying on the surface of the ground, or so near it as to be obtained with very little labor." "The next most important kind of locality in which such remains are often found, is simply a soft bog or meadow, where most of the finest specimens known in this country have been obtained. As an example of the common condition in which the Mastodon is found, I may describe the situation of one disinterred in 1834, near the sea-coast of New Jersey, three miles from Long Branch. The proprietor of the farm, walking over a reclaimed marsh, observed something projecting through the turf, which he struck with his foot, and found to be a grinder tooth. Two other teeth, some pieces of the skull, the spine, the humeral, and other bones, were afterwards found. The soil around was a soft dark peat, full of vegetable fibres. Though the skull and many other bones had been removed before Messrs. Cooper, DeKay and Van Rensselaer, examined the spot, they were able to behold the vertebral column with all the joints the ribs articulated to them, resting in their natural position, about eight or ten inches below the surface. The scapula

both rested upon the heads of the humeri, and these, as in life, in a vertical position upon the bones of the fore-arm. The right fore-arm inclined a little backwards, and the foot immediately below was a little in advance of the other, in the attitude of walking. Ten inches below the surface was the sacrum, with the pelvis united, though decayed. The femora were close by, but lay in a position nearly horizontal, the right less than the left, and both at right angles with the spine. Both tibiae each with its fibula, stood nearly erect in their natural place beneath the femora, and below them were the bones of the hinder feet in their places; no caudal vertebrae were seen. The marsh had been drained for three years, and the surface had in consequence been lowered about two feet, producing, it has been conjectured, the dislocated attitude of the thigh-bones. Beneath the peaty bed a sandy stratum was seen, and all the feet was noticed to be standing upon the top of this floor of the bog." "I have already described the nature of the beds in which the antediluvian Mastodon tooth was found at Fort Mifflin, near Baltimore; and concerning the bed in which the cave specimens, the Megalonyx, &c., have been buried, I have no information sufficiently satisfactory to offer." In presenting the history of the fossil remains of those large animals that are spoken of in the Book of Mormon, which disappeared from this country before the European emigration, yet their bones still remain to testify of the truth of their once living existence; and while these important facts are furnishing such great weight of testimony in the support of the Book of Mormon, another important consideration is presented that should not be lost sight of, which also confirms Moses's account of the great deluge, for the wonderful depth that some of those fossil bones have been found, fully demonstrates that universal eruption of the earth, which points back with unmistakable certainty to the great flood recorded in the scriptures which confirms the divine authenticity of the Bible.

"Localities of Fossil Mammalia.—*Elephas Primigenius*: Big Bone Lick, Kentucky, the teeth especially in great numbers.—*Biggin Swamp*, in South Carolina, teeth eight or nine feet below the surface. (Drayton.)—Kentucky has furnished the greatest number of teeth, but South Carolina the largest collection of other parts of the skeleton. (Godman.)—Moumouth county, New Jersey. (Mitchell.)—Opelousas, West of the Mississippi, bones and teeth in recent alluvium. (See Durald in Ann. Phil. Trans, Vol. VI, page 55, also Darby in Mitchell's translation of Cuvier's Theory of the Earth.) Stone in Carolina, teeth. (Catesby.) Queen Anne county, Maryland, a grinder, differing considerably from the tooth either of the living or fossil species, in stiff blue clay by the side of a marsh."

"*Mastodon Maximus*: Big Bone Lick, Kentucky, in a dark-colored marsh, the upper stratum somewhat gravelly, the substratum a blue tenacious clay, both imbedding bones, over all a light yellow soil, brought apparently from the adjacent high grounds; all the larger bones broken as if by violent action."—Cooper.

"The remains of *Mastodon* are found indeed in nearly all the Western States, in bogs and soft meadows, uncovered by any diluvial stratum. White river, Indiana, upper jaw and teeth, (Mitchell.)—The marshes and bogs near the Wallkill, West of the Hudson, New York. This vicinity yielded the first and finest skeleton yet procured, viz: the magnificent specimen in Philadelphia Museum, (Peale.) Also on the North Holston, a branch of the Tennessee river. Carolina, bones, &c., in a morass like the rest. (Jefferson's Notes on Virginia.)

"Again, in Wythe county, Virginia, at five feet below the surface, near a salt-lick, a large number of bones, almost an entire skeleton, was found, said to have been accompanied by a mass of triturated branches, leaves, &c., enveloped in a sac, supposed to be the stomach not however correctly. (See Godman's Nat. History.) Chester, Orange county New York, in a peat bog, four feet beneath the sur-

face, many fine fragments. (Mitchell.)—On the York river, some fine members of a skeleton were found, in marsh mud, surrounded by roots of cypress trees. (Madison, Medical Repository.) On the coast of New Jersey, near Longbranch, in a bog, almost an entire skeleton, in the natural erect posture, the head hardly below the surface. (Cooper's Annals of the New York Lyceum.) Near Baltimore, at Fort McHenry, in digging a well in the Star Fort, in a stratum of marsh mud, nearly sixty feet below the surface, under a layer of diluvium. (Hayden's Geol. Essays.) Remains of *Mastodon* abound at the Salines (Licks) of Great Osage river to as great an extent, it is said, as at Big Bone Lick, or around the Wallkill.—(Godman.)

"*Megatherium*. Fragments of at least two skeletons in recent marsh, Skidaway Island, Georgia.—(Cooper.)

"*Megalonyx*. A fragment of an arm or thigh bone, a complete radius, an ulna, three phalangeal claw-bones, and some bones of the feet, found about thirty feet below the surface of the floor of a cavern in Green Briar county, Virginia, (Godman.) Big Bone Lick has furnished a large humerus, a metacarpal bone, a right lower maxillary bone with four teeth, a detached molar tooth in good preservation, a clavicle, a tibia of the right side. (Cooper.) *Megalonyx* bones have also been found in White Cave, Kentucky.

"It will be observed that we have authentic accounts of the remains of extinct Mammalia under two entirely dissimilar situations. In one case, as in the *Mastodon* tooth discovered near Baltimore, the fossil occurs in an ancient bog, covered by a thick bed of sand and diluvium.—This is one of the deposits which I have called ancient alluvium, and which seems to belong to some era of the tertiary period, but what precise epoch is at present quite uncertain. Another set, apparently consisting of the very same species, occurs in the most recent class of bogs and marshes, buried to a very slight depth beneath the surface. The latter is the situation in which by far the largest

number of Mastodon, Elephant and other bones have been found. These newer bogs or marshes are in no case seen to be covered by any diluvial matter but appear, on the contrary, from their low level and their wet state, being often traversed by streams, to have experienced little or no change since the fossil relics were originally entombed in them. In the regions beyond the Alleghanies, most of these remains occur in spots which are called Salt Licks; these are meadows and swampy grounds where the soil on the surface of the ground is impregnated with muriate of soda, from the springs which empty themselves from the muriatiferous sand-stones which abound in the Western States. Big Bone Lick, in Kentucky, is an example of one of these.—Here have been found not only vast numbers of the fossil bones of the extinct races, but quantities almost as great of the Buffalo, besides, many of two or three species of Deer, now, like the Buffalo, indigenous to the country. This, therefore, would appear to have been resorted to not only in modern times by the living races, but more anciently by animals now extinct, for the salt, and it may be for the food and pleasant coolness produced by the marsh. Our travellers to the Western regions, where the Buffaloes or Bison now ranges, have daily opportunities of witnessing these animals entrapped and perishing in these licks and swamps; and it seems evident that the Mastodon and Elephant of former times, from their huge size and unwieldy forms, must have been equally exposed to the same fate.—Granting such to have been the chief cause which has buried these races, we see at once why such remains are found only in meadows or soft places, why they occur at such small depths, and why in so many cases the head has been seen resting nearly on the surface of the marsh; the cranium universally decayed, and the skeleton either in its natural erect position, or the ponderous bones below, and the ribs and vertebræ above.” (See Annals of the New York Lyceum, Vol. 1, page 145, also Ossemen’s Fossils, 2nd edit., tom. 1, pages 217, 222.)

“The state of perfect preservation in which so many of these bones are found, is another argument that the animals have perished by such a cause and not by any violent catastrophe. There is at present in the Philadelphia Museum a pair of magnificent tusks of the Mastodon, so little acted on by time, that the beholder almost fancies he sees the marks and scratches on the enamel which it received in the living state. These beautiful remains were found by a countryman in Ohio, when digging an ordinary ditch in his meadow, so that it is probable that the rest of the skeleton lies near, and at very little depth. From all the facts before me, I have little hesitation in giving my opinion that the extinct gigantic animals of this continent, the Mastodon, Elephant, Megalonyx, Megatherium, fossil Bos and fossil Cervus lived down to a comparatively recent period, and that some of them were in existence as long ago as the era anterior to that which covered the greatest part of this continent with diluvium.”—From *Encyclopedia of Geography*, by Murry, published A. D. 1353, Vol. 3, pages 377 to 379.

THE HORSE FOUND FOSSIL.

“*The Horse* not originally imported into America from the East. It is well known to our readers that Prof. Holmes, of the College of Charleston, has been for many years engaged in exploring the fossil beds of Ashley river. A large number of interesting relics have been collected, and the ravans of Europe and America have expressed their great satisfaction at the results of these explorations. Professor Agassiz, in a lecture some time since, just after a visit to the Ashley with Professor Holmes, said, “it was the greatest depository of fossil remains he had ever seen.” Professor Tuomy called it “the great horse sepulchre of America,” and now Professor Leidy, the distinguished American Anatomist, has prepared a valuable paper on the remains of the horse and other animals, found fossil on the Ashley, which had been placed in his hands for examination by Professor Holmes; and it will

appear, from the short extract we make, that the investigations now being made in this department of natural science, are developing some curious things.—Professor Leidy writes: “In regard to the remains of the horse, from the facts stated in the accounts given of them in the succeeding pages, I think it will be conceded that this animal inhabited the United States during the post pliocene period, (after the flood,) contemporary with the mastodon, megalonyx, and the great broad-fronted bison.”—*Charleston Mercury*, Jan. 14th, 1858.

The fact that a great variety of animals once existed upon the American Continent, that have since become extinct, is demonstrated by incontrovertible evidence. And as there were sufficient causes to destroy the Elephant, Mastodon, Megalonyx, horse, and other varieties, whose bones have been found upon American soil, in great abundance, which affords sufficient evidence to conclude that under similar circumstances, the cow, goat and other domestic animals, spoken of in the Book of Mormon might also have been obliterated.

The foregoing history of the extinct races of animals, that have been found in their fossil remains, in so great abundance gives full proof that those animals described in the Book of Mormon, positively had an existence, and abounded in great numbers upon American soil, at some former period. And although they had become extinct prior to the discovery of America by Europeans, yet the indisputable fact of the manner and time of their actual existence warrants the statement that the Jaredites and Nephites, two distinct races of people were each successively, in their time, in possession of those identical animals as described in the Book of Mormon. The Bible says the animals were made for the use of man.—History and the Bible proves that men and animals arrived upon the American continent, shortly after the flood, and increased to great numbers. The vast abundance of American antiquities proves the early existence of civilization among

the aboriginal inhabitants; and their stupendous works of art fully justify the statement of the Book of Mormon, that some of those animals were domesticated and brought into service by the aboriginal inhabitants of America; hence the whole chain of facts, with all the connecting circumstances, confirms the Book of Mormon to be a true record, which says the primitive inhabitants of America, had “all manner of cattle, of oxen, and cows, and of sheep, and of swine, and of goats, and also many other kind of animals, which were useful for the food of man; and they also had horses, and asses, and there were elephants and cureloms and cumoms; all of which were useful unto man, and more especially the elephants and cureloms and cumoms.”—Book of Mormon, in the Book of Ether, 4th chapter, 3d par.

SECTION TWENTY-THREE.

The primitive use of the Metals :

That the aboriginal inhabitants of America at an early period understood the use of the metals, and the art of manufacturing edged tools from iron and steel, and the compound of copper and tin, will appear evidently true, from a collection of well established facts, selected with care, from the most reliable authors, and presented as follows:

“Baron Humbolt informs us, in his researches in South America, that when he crossed the Cordillera mountains, by the way of Panama and Assuay, and viewed the enormous masses of stone cut from the porphyry quarries of Pullal, which was employed in constructing the ancient highroads of the Incas, that he began to doubt whether the Peruvians were acquainted with other tools than hatchets made of flint and stone. On which account he adopted a new opinion, contrary to those generally received. He conjectured that they must have had tools made of copper hardened with tin, such as it is known the early nations of Asia made use of. This conjecture was fully sustained by the discovery of an ancient Peruvian mining chisel, in a silver mine at Vilcabamba, which had been worked

in the time of Incas. This instrument of copper was four inches long, and three-fourths of an inch wide; which he carried with him to Europe, where he had it analyzed, and found it to contain ninety-four parts of copper and six of tin. He says that this keen copper of the Peruvians is almost identically the same with that of the Gallic axe, which cut wood nearly as well as if made of iron and steel."—*American Antiquities*, page 186.

In Onondaga county, New York, "In ploughing the earth, digging wells, canals, or excavating for salt waters, about the lakes, new discoveries are frequently made, which as clearly show the operations of ancient civilization here, as the works of the present race would do, were they left to the operations of time for five or six hundred years, especially were this country to be totally overrun by the whole consolidated savage tribes of the West, exterminating both the worker and his works, as appears to have been done in ages past. In Scipio, on Salmon creek, a Mr. Halsted has, from time to time during ten years past, ploughed up on a certain extent of land on his farm, seven or eight hundred pounds of brass, which appeared to have once been formed into various implements both of husbandry and war; helmets and working utensils mingle together. The finder of this brass, we are informed, from time to time as he discovered it by ploughing, carried it to Auburn, and sold it by the pound, where it was worked up with as little curiosity attending it as though it had been but an ordinary article of the country's produce. On this field where it was found the forest timber was growing as abundantly, and had attained to as great age and size as elsewhere in the heavy timbered country of the lakes. In the same field was also found much wrought iron, which furnished Mr. Halstead with a sufficiency to shoe his horses for several years. Hatchets of iron were also found there, formed in the manner the ancient Swiss or German hatchet or small axes is formed."—*American Antiquities*, pages 253 and 254.

On page 252, of this same work, the author gives an account of the remains of a blacksmith's forge being found; and near the same place were "ploughed up crucibles, such as mineralogists use in refining metals." Also on page 255 an account is given of, "anvils of iron" having been found in the same vicinity with the other discoveries. And on page 258, it is stated that in opening some of the mounds of those ancient people, "there have been found very well manufactured swords and knives of iron, and possibly steel, says Mr. Atwater." And again, on page 256, the author says: "A vast many instances of articles made of copper and sometimes plated with silver, have been met with on opening their works (of tumuli) circular pieces of copper, intended either as medals or breast plates, have been found, several inches in diameter, very much injured by time. In several tumuli, the remains of knives and even swords, in the form of rust have been discovered." The Nephites, according to the Book of Mormon, in some instances buried their swords. "And all the people were assembled together, they took their swords and all the weapons which were used for the shedding of man's blood, and they did bury them up deep in the earth." See Book of Alma, 14th chapter, 7th par. This shows that the Nephites used swords, and that as they buried them according to the above related instance, so they might have done in many others. But it is certainly clear that the natives at some period had a knowledge of the use of iron, from the fact of those antique remains of swords, and it is highly probable they were of steel. On page 177 of the *American Antiquities*, the author says, that "in Virginia, near Blacksburgh, eighty miles from Marietta, there was found the half of a steel bow, which, when entire, would measure five or six feet: the other part was corroded or broken." Iron and steel were known to the Eastern nations many centuries before Lehi left Jerusalem, mention is made of the steel bow, by David in the 18th Psalm, 34th verse, 500

years before Lehi and Nephi emigrated to the Western Continent, and also long before David's day; mention is made of the steel bow in Job 20th chapter, 24th verse. Lehi makes mention, in the Book of Mormon, of a bow that he brought out of Jerusalem, "which was made of fine steel."—First book of Nephi, chapter 5, par. 8. And, also, Nephi makes mention of a sword that he brought with him that was made of steel.—First book of Nephi, chapter 1, par. 32.

The following will show the use of the metals and a knowledge of mining by the natives:

"From the American Journal of Sciences and the Arts, we have a highly interesting description of the gold districts in Georgia and North Carolina, extending West, even to the State of Tennessee. In this Journal, gold is treated on as being extremely abundant, and from the situation of the veins, is far more eligible to the operations of the miner, than the gold mine of South America. Gold is found connected with various formations of slate, with red clay, and in the bottoms of streams, mingled with the sand and gravel. It is found with the heavy gravelly earth of the mountains, but most of all in the kind of rock called quartz. In North Carolina, on Valley river, gold is found in abundance connected with quartz rock, which also abounds with crystal, running in veins in every direction, in tissues from the size of a straw to that of a man's arm. The quartz is in great masses, very compact, and of a yellow golden hue, from the abundant presence of the metal. In the bottom of this river much deposited gold is found in strata. It would appear, from the evidences yet remaining, that the ancient inhabitants were not insensible to the existence of the golden mines here, nor, of course, of its value; for, in the vicinity were found the remains of ancient shafts. Many shafts have been sunk by them in pursuit of the ore, and judging from the masses thrown up, one of them; penetrated a quartz rock to a great depth, as about thirty feet still lies open to view,

There is also a deep and difficult cut across a very bold vein of this rock, in pursuit of this metal, but it is now much filled up, having been used subsequently for an Indian burying ground. At this place, says the Journal, nothing short of the steel pick-ax, could have left the traces on the stone which are found here. Not far from this place, have been found the remains of a small furnace, the walls of which had been formed of soap-stone, so as to endure the heat without being fractured. In the county of Habersham, in Georgia, was lately dug out of the earth, at a place where the gold ore is found, a small vessel in the form of a skillet. It was fifteen feet underground, made of a compound of tin and copper, with a trace of iron. The copper and tin in its composition, are undoubtedly the evidence of its antiquity. Crucibles of earthen ware, and far better than those now in use, are frequently found by the miners. By actual experiment they are found to endure the heat three times as long as the Hessian crucibles, which are the best now in use. Bits of machinery, such as are necessary in elevating the ore from the depths, as used by the ancient nations, are also frequently found in the earth where those mines exist, which clearly shows those ancients acquainted with the minerals. On the top of Yeona Mountain, in the same region, still exists the remains of a stone wall, which exhibit the angles of a fortification and guard the only accessible points of ascent to its summit. Timber in the Cherokee country, bearing the marks of the ax, (not of stone,) have been taken up at the depth of ten feet below the surface. Indian tradition, says Mr. Silliman, gives no account of these remains."—*American Antiquities*, pages 390 to 392.

Mention is made by the first Spanish visitors to the New World of the discovery of utensils made of copper used by the Indians, such as hatchets and knives, and also there were several copper instruments found resembling chisels. See Stephen's *Incidents of Travel in Yucatan*, Vol. 1, page 408.

There are numerous instances of such like discoveries of metallic instruments, too tedious to mention, that have been found at different times and places among the antiquated ruins of the country; but a sufficient amount has been presented to prove the fact, that the aboriginal inhabitants of America, at an early period, understood the art of working in the metals, and employed their service in constructing all their edifices, of towers, temples, and monuments, and also roads and aqueducts. But it is quite likely that some objections will be raised against the conclusion that those ancient stone edifices and other works of solid masonry were constructed with the use of tools made of iron and steel, simply because there were no iron crowbars, nor steel pick-axes and chisels found among their ruins; for indeed some have already on that very account concluded that iron was never known at any period to the natives, and consequently make it as an objection to the Book of Mormon; but this supposition vanishes when brought to the light of truth. All experience proves that iron exposed to dampness in time will decompose. A certain author says: "Long experience proves that gold, silver and copper, when wrought, whether exposed to the open air or buried beneath the surface of the earth, will remain for many ages in an uncorroded state; but this is not the case with iron, which from its nature is exposed to the attacks of rust and moisture, which in time effects its entire decomposition."—Wilson's *Conquest of Mexico*, page 200. It is just as probable that the article of iron disappeared from some of those ancient cities of America, after their desolation as it surely did from those ruined cities of the Eastern world. For it is a well known fact that no antique remains of iron tools have been found by modern travellers among the ruins of an ancient, Thebes, Nineveh, Babylon and Jerusalem, which is evidence that the article of iron disappeared from those ancient cities subsequently to their depopulation. For there is an abundance of testimony

showing that at the time of the building of those cities, iron and steel was well known and extensively used by many of the civilized nations of that age; as will be seen from the following: "Mention is made in Deuteronomy, 3d chapter, 11th verse, concerning 'Og, King of Bashan, who used an iron bedstead, nine cubits in length, and four cubits in breadth.—Og, King of Bashan, was defeated by the Hebrews under Joshua, about 1565 years before Christ. Iron and steel are both made mention of by Job, above 1500 years before Christ, 'He shall flee from the iron weapon, and the bow of steel shall strike him through.'—Job, 20, 24. The supposition that steel was only known to the ancients in the compound of tin and copper is without foundation.

Mr. Robbins, in his "*History of the World*," says: "The invention of steel is of very great antiquity, * * that it was known to the Greeks, in the time of Homer, and received from them several names, the most common of which was Stomoma. Chalybes, was also a name given to steel, from the Chalybes, a people inhabiting the Southern shore of the Euxine, between Chalcis and Paphlagonia, a country which was renowned for its works of iron and steel."—*World Displayed*, Vol. 1, page 228.

The above refers back to an age when steel was known to be manufactured from iron in the days of Homer, who flourished about 900 years before Christ.—*World Displayed*, Vol. 1, page 49. This establishes the fact that steel was known among the Greeks above 800 years before Nephi came to America with a few families of Israelites; Lycurgus, who flourished 884 years before Christ, wishing, seemingly, to improve the condition of Sparata, one of the principal States of the Grecian Empire. Wherefore, Lycurgus, apparently aiming to humble the rich and elevate the poor; as in the language of the historian, which says: "He substituted iron for gold and silver as the medium of exchange. As this iron money was of no account among the neighboring countries, the Spartans could no longer indulge in

luxury, by purchasing foreign costly articles."—*World Displayed*, Vol. 1. page 51

From the circumstances of the iron money established by Lycurgus, it appears that there was an abundance of iron among the civilized nations in that age of the world. The article of iron was known at a very early age of the world; almost from the first accounts of civilization, it was known to the ancient Egyptians and Phenicians, it is also spoken of quite a number of times in the Books of Moses. Tubal Cain was, "an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron," before the flood, Gen. 4, 22.

Hence, it is highly probable that the antediluvian blacksmiths understood the art of making steel from iron, which is less difficult than the compounding of copper and tin and tempering it for edged tools. It is certainly very probable that the knowledge of working in the metals has always continued with civilization, and descended from Tubal Cain, through the family of Noah down to all the civilized nations of the earth. Wherein it is evidently clear that iron and steel, and the knowledge of working in the metals was extensively known to the people of the Eastern Continent long before Lehi and Nephi came to America. And hence from a collection of known facts, it is clearly established that the knowledge of working in iron and steel and many of the other metals was well known to the oboriginal inhabitants of America; during that period of their civilization, which goes far to sustain the claim that is set forth in the Book of Mormon, concerning the several families of Israelites, which emigrated to America nearly 600 years before Christ, by Lehi and Nephi, who were scholars, architects and artists, as is described in the language of Nephi, which says: "And it came to pass that we began to prosper exceedingly, and to multiply in the land. And I, Nephi, did take the sword of Saban, and after the manner of it did make many swords, lest by any means the people who were now called Lamēnites should come upon

us and destroy us; for I knew their hatred towards me and my children, and those who were called my people. And I did teach my people to build buildings; and to work in all manner of wood, and of iron, and of copper, and of brass, and of steel, and of gold, and of silver, and of precious ores, which were in great abundance. And I, Nephi, did build a temple; and I did construct it after the manner of the temple of Solomon, save it were not built of so many precious things; for they were not to be found upon the land; wherefore, it could not be built like unto Solomon's Temple. But the manner of the construction was like unto the temple of Solomon; and the workmanship thereof was exceeding fine."—Second Book of Nephi, 4th chapter, 3d par.

Among the American antiquities, there are found many corroborating facts in support of the foregoing quotation, from the Book of Mormon. The following accounts are very confirming: "The monuments of the first or primitive race," said the late William Wirt, "are regular stone walls, wells stoned up, brick hearths, found in digging the Louisville canal, medals of copper, silver, swords, and other implements of iron. Mr. Flint assures us that he has seen these strange ancient swords. He has also examined a small iron shoe like a horse-shoe, incrust-ed with the rust of ages, and found far below the soil, and a copper axe weighing about two pounds, singularly tempered and of peculiar construction."—Mayer's Mexico, page 256.

With these state of facts showing beyond all possibility of doubt that the aboriginal inhabitants possessed the art of working in iron and steel, and also being in possession of those serviceable animals, then native to the country as before described. It is easy to perceive the facilities with which they were prepared for constructing those wonderful works of art, which are found in the ancient ruins, scattered profusely over the vast extent of country both North and South America; which

most learned authors on the subject of American Antiquities, have acknowledged in their researches that the origin of the aboriginal inhabitants of America is beyond their reach of discovery. Such as Messrs. Stephens, Schoolcraft, Mayers, Goodrich, Brownell and many others, have all concurred that it is a great mystery, as to how the primitive races of men arrived here, and who they were is unanswerable. Although Mr. Catlin entertained different views in some respects: he labored to show they were of the ten lost tribes of Israel, but could not determine how nor when they arrived to this country, he leaves the subject ending in entire supposition, although he found many Jewish resemblances among the native Americans, showing that they were of Jewish descent; but that they were of the ten lost tribes, he presented no definite accounts. Mr. Wilson's history of the Conquest of Mexico, contains some important information. Though he shot his sharp criticisms at several authors against their exaggerations, and the undue credit attached to the Spanish accounts given of the Indian manuscripts, and of the Cortez war and conquerors of Mexico, which may be all well enough, as justly deserving. But while Mr. Wilson seems to cut off extremes on the one hand, he also appears to unite with others equally untenable; he gives too much credit himself to unwarranted traditions in many instances, especially such as the fabulous account of the great Island of Atlantis, while other modern historians all concur in showing very good reasons for rejecting a part of it at least. Mr. Wilson in his efforts to account for the origin of the aborigines to this country, has placed great emphasis on what he called the "Pillars of Hercules" and other memorial works of art, both in sculpture and architecture as found among the ancient works of American Antiquities, which he has supposed so much resembles the ancient Phoenician and Egyptian style of art; and hence because the Phoenicians were a more mercantile people than the Egyptians, but prospered co-

temporary with them and derived their arts from them; therefore, Mr. Wilson has ascribed a Phoenician origin for the architecture of the ruined cities in Central America; because of the resemblance to the Egyptian antiquities, he has labored to show that the Phoenicians formerly derived their style of arts from the Egyptians, but subsequently when they became a great commercial people, America was colonized by the Phoenicians; and in this way he accounts for the American Antiquities resembling the Phoenician and Egyptian style of architecture and ancient engravings. But the *key* of interpreting hieroglyphic characters derived from the Rosetta stone (found in 1797 near the Delta in Egypt,) will not interpret the engraved characters called hieroglyphics found on the tablets deposited in the buildings of the same architecture of American Antiquities, that Mr. Wilson and others have concluded so much resemble the ancient Egyptian characters, which have attracted the attention of all travelers that have visited the ruined cities of Central America.— And although the Rosetta interpreters, will accurately decipher the Egyptian hieroglyphics and Ancient Phoenician characters and all the Asiatic and European symbols; but will not interpret American hieroglyphics which are said so much resemble the Phoenician and Egyptian characters that they are often called by the same name. This fact that the American hieroglyphics cannot be read by the key that interprets the Egyptian hieroglyphics, which resembles the American characters, is certainly a very strange mystery and must be very perplexing to the Phoenician theory of Mr. Wilson's, in rightly accounting for the origin of the primitive races of men in this country; in fact let the historian turn which way he will the knot is tied across his path that never can be cut except by the Book of Mormon, which explains the whole mystery. This important book says the Nephites, when they migrated to this country nearly 600 years before Christ, understood both the Hebrew and

Egyptian languages and wrote their records in Egyptian characters by engraving on metallic plates by which their history and origin were preserved. But eventually they so altered the Egyptian characters that no other people could read them, calling them the "reformed Egyptian."—See Book of Mormon, First Book of Nephi 1st chapter, 1st par., also Book of Mormon 4th chapter, 8th par. Whatever language those engraved tablets found in Central America may contain, whether they are written in the Nephite "reformed Egyptian" or not, yet one thing is certain no one of the European race has ever read them, which is a strange incident in this advanced age of the world; especially when taken into consideration the fact, that those who understand the key of ancient languages as brought to light by the Rosetta stone may travel through the Old World among the monuments and tombs of ancient Egypt and Phoenicia and read all their inscriptions as accurately as in a familiar language; which shows most conclusively that if there is truly any similarity of the hieroglyphical characters of Central America sufficient to warrant them to be of Egyptian origin, and yet cannot now be read by the Rosetta key of languages; then most certainly they have been altered as the Book of Mormon says concerning the Nephite records as follows: "And now behold, we have written this record according to our knowledge in the characters, which are called among us the reformed Egyptian, being handed down and altered by us, according to our manner of speech."—See Book of Mormon in the Book of Mormon, 4th chapter, 8th par. This shows that the Nephites wrote their records in what they called the "reformed Egyptian" characters as being altered among themselves, and fully explains the reason why the American hieroglyphics cannot now be read by any known key of the interpretation of languages.

This subject will be treated on more fully in a subsequent number.

Hence, Mr. Wilson's theory that the

primitive inhabitants of America are of Phoenician origin, may be readily perceived to be extremely doubtful, yet it is the devoted topic of Mr. Wilson's history, and in order to account for their former greatness and prosperity in building so many large cities in Central America; he has argued the probability of a commercial intercourse of "India, China, Japan and the Islands of the Eastern Sea," for a period of 500 years, with Central America.—See Wilson's History, page 167.

This supposed system of trade and commerce is set forth as being indispensable to the support of his wild theory.—Upon reflection on this subject the question naturally arises, if the people of America at so early a period as 3,000 years ago held commerce across the great ocean with the nations of the Eastern World, what did they trade in? What were the staples of market? And what were the commodities of exchange? But bear witness to the greatness of a once mighty but fallen people. The history of which will be more fully presented in this work, which will be found in accordance with the predictions of the Bible, and according to the history of that people given in the Book of Mormon called Nephites and Lamanites.

After I had written the foregoing on the subject of iron and steel, being once known to the native inhabitants of America; a friend placed into my hands a work entitled the "United States Naval Astronomical Expedition," which furnishes an article too important to be omitted on this subject, written by Lieutenant J. M. Gillis, in A. D. 1855, who says as follows: "That iron was employed in remote times in America, may eventually be established. At the advent of Manco Capac the Peruvians are represented in the lowest depths of barbarism. Their improvement began with him and continued under his successors to the arrival of the Spaniards. During that period it is conceded that tools of iron were not used, and yet structures of massive cut stones, weighing several tons each, it is

said, were then erected, and the stones so accurately jointed that not the point of a penknife can find entrance. The question naturally arises, with what material were they cut? It has been said with tempered copper. When we ask how that metal was made sufficiently hard, and at the same time retain other essential properties of a granite-cutting implement, we are told the art has been lost! In thus cutting a knot of their own tying, writers have unnecessarily perplexed themselves and their readers, and without perceiving the contradiction involved. Applied to Americans because they had no iron; the dictum has been offered to account for similar sculptures of the Egyptians who had *steel*, and who had constant intercourse with the oldest city of the earth—or one of the oldest—and memorable for its fabrication of swords that without injury to their edges could chop iron bolts in two. It is more reasonable to infer that the old dressed granite buildings of Central America and Peru date from times anterior to those of the Incas—times in which iron was known. The comparative freshness of such remains presents no difficulty. The advent of Manco Capac is carried back to the twelfth century—only seven hundred years—while architectural and other antiquities equally fresh and extant in Europe and the East, and are known to be from two to three thousand years old. That there was a previous epoch of civilization in Peru has always been confirmed by traditions of the natives relating to ancient structures. Ignorant of the origin of these, they did exactly what people of the Old World did under similar circumstances—Garcilasso himself refers them to a people who had iron. There is one page of his work bearing on the subject of special interest, and the more so since ancient monolithic structures in Peru are no longer a question. They are yet extant. Mayta Capac, the fourth Inca, subdued the Indians of Tiahuanaco.—“Amongst the mighty works and buildings of that country, there is a certain

hill or heap of earth thrown up by hand, which is so high that it is a subject of great admiration; and, lest with time it should settle or sink lower, it is founded on great stones, cemented together; and to what end this was done no man can conjecture, unless it were, like the pyramids, in Egypt, to remain for a trophy of the greatness of that monarch who erected it. On one side of this mighty heap are the statues of two giants, cut in stone, with long robes to the ground, and wreaths or binders about their heads, which being much impaired by time, shows the antiquity of them. There is also a strange wall to be seen raised with stones of an extraordinary bigness; and what is most wonderful to consider is, how or in what manner they were brought thither by force of men who had not yet attained to the knowledge of engines fit for such a work; and from what place they were brought, there being no rocks or quarries but such as are at a far distance from thence. There appear also many great and lofty edifices; and what is more strange, there are in divers places portals of stone, and many of them whole and perfect, *made of one single and entire stone*, which, being raised on pedestals, are found by those who have measured them to be thirty feet in length and fifteen feet in breadth, which pedestals, as well as the arches of the portals, were all of one single stone; and then we may consider how great those stones were before they were shaped, and what *tools of iron* were requisite for such a labor. * * *

“That such tools have not been found, is no proof against their early use in Peru, any more than in Egypt and other lands. Lead, tin, bronze, and copper, silver and gold, have been preserved from one to two thousand years in soils that dissolve *iron* in a century or two.”—U. S. Naval Astronomical Expedition, Vol. 2, page 148 to 150.

The foregoing statements on the subject of the primitive use of the metals clearly establishes the fact beyond all possibility of doubt, that the articles of iron and steel were both well known at

an early period to the aboriginal inhabitants of America, which is in accordance with the claims of the Book of Mormon, and therefore can no longer be brought as an objection against that book, but by the ignorant and misinformed, who have often with a pretended show of their learning ridiculed in a very sneering manner the statement given in the Book of Mormon, concerning the art of working in the metals as being had at an early period by the aboriginal inhabitants of America. Wherefore, it was deemed requisite that a collection of historical facts should be presented on this subject taken from the antiquities of America; which proves the accounts given in the Book of Mormon to be identically with the facts of American history, which clearly refutes every objection on this subject offered against the Book of Mormon, by the ignorant and unlearned, and successfully establishes the claim for the Book of Mormon to be of divine origin, sustained upon scientific principles.

SECTION TWENTY-FOUR.

Aborigines of America.

Many attempts have been made by historians and naturalists, both, before and since the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, to discover the origin of the aboriginal races of men upon the Western Continent. Various conjectures have been offered, by different authors, but no position has been sustained, with confirming testimony; wherefore, upon a thorough investigation it will be seen that without an appeal to the Book of Mormon all begins with mystery and ends in doubt and uncertainty. The no clew to any satisfactory information is given concerning what were included in those commodities of exchange. It is self evident from all past experience that any people dependent, in any degree, upon a commercial interest, must necessarily derive their benefit from some system of exportation, and what could they export but their own domestic productions. And as Mr. Wilson, in substance, has said on pages 167 and 168— that a term of 500 years of American

commerce with the Eastern nations could only account for the prosperity of Central America in the building up of her splendid cities, which long since have

(*To be continued*)

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